

## SUPERFUND

# Industri-plex Superfund Site, Operable Unit 2

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND



**THE SUPERFUND PROGRAM** protects human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up often-abandoned hazardous waste sites and engaging communities throughout the process. Many of these sites are complex and need long-term cleanup actions. Those responsible for contamination are held liable for cleanup costs. EPA strives to return previously contaminated land and groundwater to productive use.

## SITE BACKGROUND:

The Industri-plex Superfund Site located in Woburn, MA was added to the Superfund National Priority List in 1983 and includes industrial, commercial and undeveloped properties. Various chemical and glue manufacturing facilities operated on the Industri-plex Superfund Site from 1853 to 1969. As a result of these industrial operations, soil, sediment, groundwater, surface water and/or air became contaminated with various compounds including arsenic, lead, chromium, ammonia, benzene, toluene, and hydrogen sulfide. The successor companies to those that performed the industrial operations are conducting the cleanup work. They are termed the "Settling Defendants" in the various legal documents for the Site.

EPA established a 1986 Record of Decision (ROD) for the first phase of cleanup at Industri-plex (known as Operable Unit 1 or OU1), which included the construction of various protective caps over approximately 110 acres of soils contaminated with heavy metals and animal hide wastes. These caps included grass and gravel, parking lots, buildings and redevelopment and other things. The construction of these caps were completed in 1998.

## PHASE 2 (OU2) CLEANUP BACKGROUND:

Currently, groundwater contamination from Industri-plex travels into Halls Brook Holding Area Pond (HBHA) Pond. From there, a portion of the contaminants continue traveling in surface water downstream from the HBHA Pond into the Aberjona River. The contaminants have contributed to contamination accumulating in sediments within the

HBHA Pond, Aberjona River and Cranberry Bog Conservation Area at the Industri-plex Site. In 2006, EPA established a second ROD or cleanup plan to address this contamination. The Settling Defendants at the Industri-plex Superfund Site are responsible for implementing the second phase of the cleanup. They have hired de maximis, inc. for the design and implementation of the cleanup. A portion of the cleanup has been designed and is ready to be implemented over the next 12 months.

## NEXT STEPS TO IMPLEMENT PHASE 2 (OU2) CLEANUP PLAN:

EPA and the Settling Defendants have further divided the cleanup into three designs:

- Removing the sediment from Lower South Pond (LSP) at the northern portion of the Site;

*continued >*

## KEY CONTACTS:

### JOSEPH LEMAY, P.E.

EPA New England  
Project Manager  
(617) 918-1323  
lemay.joe@epa.gov

### EMILY BENDER

EPA New England  
Community Involvement  
Coordinator  
(617) 918-1037  
bender.emily@epa.gov

## GENERAL INFO:

### EPA NEW ENGLAND

5 Post Office Square  
Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
(617) 918-1111  
[www.epa.gov/region1/](http://www.epa.gov/region1/)

**TOLL-FREE  
CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
1-888-EPA-7341

### LEARN MORE AT:

[www.epa.gov/region1/removal-sites/](http://www.epa.gov/region1/removal-sites/)

- Preparing HBHA Pond for treatment by installing structures in the pond and controlling storm water conditions. This will begin in August 2015 and is the focus of this fact sheet; and
- Developing a water treatment design in HBHA Pond, wetland mitigation plan, institutional control plan and environmental monitoring plan.

### **2015 CONSTRUCTION: PREPARING AND TREATING HBHA POND TO REDUCE**

#### **CONTAMINATION:**

Beginning in August 2015, the Settling Defendant's contractor, DA Collins, will mobilize to the HBHA Pond to begin work installing erosion controls and preparing a laydown area for supporting construction activities around the HBHA Pond. From August 2015 through December 2015, DA Collins will work to channel storm-water away from the northern portion of the Pond to the southern portion of the HBHA Pond. This will help to control the storm conditions in the pond so that it is ready for treatment. This channel will be

a rip-rap stone by-pass drainage channel along the west side of the pond. This work will involve the use of a crane for installing various sheet piling and supporting the work, including sheet piling to divide the pond into a primary and secondary treatment cells. Additionally, when the channel is installed, contaminated soil adjacent to the pond will be excavated, then piled in the soil staging area to be prepared and transported offsite disposal at a permitted facility. Clean soil will be brought in to fill the excavated areas and establish the permeable cap. Truck traffic in the project area will increase during transportation of contaminated material off site and while bringing in clean soil and materials. Up to 12 trucks per day are expected to move either in or out of the site area. The truck traffic will be generally routed from Commerce Way to Cabot Road in order to enter the site, and will leave the site using the same roads.

Over the next five months, workers will typically be on-site Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 pm, and will wear personal protective equipment. This protective equipment is a precautionary measure to ensure workers are not exposed to contaminated soils during their work.

#### **AIR MONITORING:**

Air monitors that monitor for dust will be placed around the work areas along the perimeter of the site during construction. If dust is detected at elevated levels, work will be stopped, and dust controls will be put in place to eliminate the potential for dust leaving the site. DA Collins will implement dust controls (e.g. wetting of soil, etc.) as needed to manage and minimize airborne dust throughout construction. Volatile organic compound and other monitoring will be conducted within the active work zone to evaluate construction work health and safety, need for increased levels of personal protection and/or modification of work practices.

#### **ADDITIONAL CONTACT:**

Mayor Scott Galvin  
City of Woburn  
781-897-5901  
[mayor@cityofwoburn.com](mailto:mayor@cityofwoburn.com)